

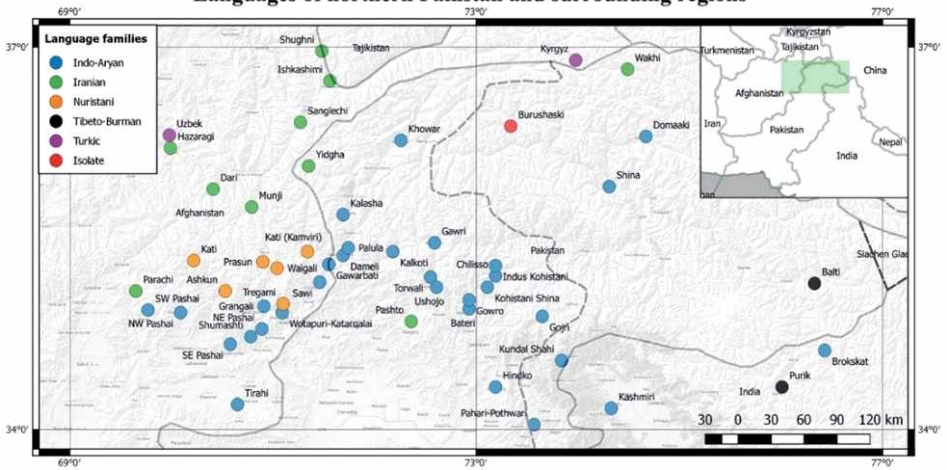


FORUM FOR LANGUAGE INITIATIVES



**“Empowered Local
Communities with
Diverse and Vibrant Cultural
and Linguistic Heritages”**

Languages of northern Pakistan and surrounding regions



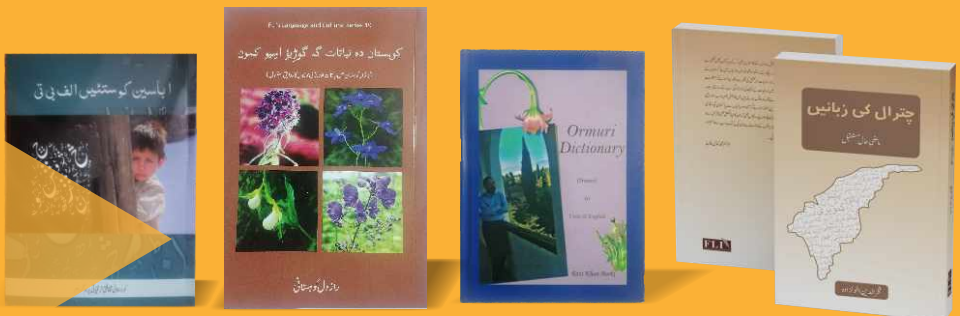
About Us

The Forum for Language Initiatives (FLI) is a registered non-profit organization with over two decades of experience empowering indigenous language communities in Northern Pakistan. Founded in 2002, FLI's mission is to preserve and promote the linguistic and cultural heritage of these communities.

Rationale

Many of Pakistan's languages, especially those spoken in the northern Pakistan are highly endangered due to a lack of institutional support. The ethnolinguistic communities in this area aim to preserve and promote their languages but face challenges due to limited technical expertise, knowledge, and resources.

In response, the Forum for Language Initiatives (FLI) was established to offer training, mentorship, and capacity development aimed at promoting language preservation among ethnolinguistic communities.





Vision

To see all ethnolinguistic communities in Pakistan flourishing culturally and economically

Mission

To empower ethnolinguistic communities of Pakistan to strengthen their linguistic and cultural heritages.

Objectives

- Mother-tongue languages are used across socio-cultural and social media domains within targeted minority ethnolinguistic communities.
- Mother-tongue languages are included in education by the provincial governments.
- Children in targeted communities are accessing non-curriculum reading materials in their mother tongue.
- Businesses supported in promoting local cultural tourism, cultural music and cultural events, and local arts and crafts in targeted minority ethnolinguistic communities.
- Formalized and effective support from a broad range of organizations and institutions for the promotion of mother tongue language development at local and national levels.



Programs and Services

● Training and Capacity Building

Organizing workshops and mentorship in language documentation, curriculum development, and literacy principles to empower ethnolinguistic communities of northern Pakistan.

● Resource Publication

Publishing and support in publishing books in and about indigenous languages of northern Pakistan to support learning and cultural preservation efforts.

● Advocacy and Awareness Campaigns

Conducting campaigns to raise awareness about the importance of preserving endangered languages and promoting cultural diversity.

● Community Engagement and Networking

Building bridges among ethnolinguistic communities for knowledge sharing and collaborative efforts in language preservation.



Achievements

- Enhanced awareness among indigenous communities regarding the importance of mother tongues.
- Built the capacity of government and private school teachers in teaching newly introduced mother tongue subjects in KP provinces.
- Motivated 23 communities to establish Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to provide an organized platform for language development work within their communities.
- Developed 11 PC and 15 Android keyboards for indigenous language communities, enhancing the usage of mother tongues in digital devices, especially in social media.
- Contributed to the recognition of indigenous languages at the institutional level, including universities, to support language documentation work and their inclusion in courses.
- Resolved inconsistencies in textbooks developed by the KP government for Pashto, Hindko, Saraiki, and Khowar by building the capacity of book reviewers.
- Assisted 11 indigenous language communities in resolving their orthography issues and developed new orthographies for 07 languages of northern Pakistan.
- Trained hundreds of people in language documentation from 26 ethnolinguistic communities of northern Pakistan.
- Published and supported in publishing 72 books in and about the 17 indigenous languages and cultures of northern Pakistan.
- Supported the initiation of a mother tongue-based preschool educational program in six ethnolinguistic communities.
- Connected local researchers from target communities to collaborate on their native languages through workshops, seminars, and conferences.
- Raised awareness among 15 target indigenous language community members regarding protection from COVID-19 by disseminating messages in their mother tongues.
- Partnered in organizing two international academic conferences on indigenous languages.



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